

Appl. No.: 10/031,887

Amdt. Dated June 13, 2006

Response to Office Action Mailed March 13, 2006

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application. In making the amendments above, the claims remain supported by the specification and no new matter has been added.

Section 102(e) Rejection. Amended claims 1 and 12 contain the following limitations (emphasis added):

...said data processing means on the transmission side is set to check the database based on a predetermined setting condition, and has a program capable of automatically preparing e-mail attached with new patient information in the database and a patient ID in the information, and of automatically transmitting the e-mail to one or more predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses...

The cited reference Teagarden et al. fails to teach or to suggest the claimed features, and in particular, fails to teach or suggest a program capable of automatically preparing e-mail attached with new patient information in the database and the patient ID in the information, and of automatically transmitting the e-mail to one or more predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. The examiner cites excerpts of Teagarden et al. as disclosing such features, namely Figs. 1A, 3, 10, 16, and col. 2 line 39 - col. 3 line 5, col. 4 lines 39-61, col. 11 lines 17-35, col. 12 lines 28-31, col. 14 lines 23-39, and col. 17 lines 5-36. However, it is respectfully submitted that review of these excerpts, and Teagarden et al in general, shows that the reference discloses nothing concerning the automatic preparation and

transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. Col. 2 line 39 - col. 3 line 5 describes database preparation of health care claim records, with no indication of automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination processing apparatuses. Col. 4 lines 39-61 and Fig. 3 discuss login of callers and collection of identifying information in a database, but makes no disclosure of automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. Col. 11 lines 17-35 reveals reliance upon telephone interviews for data collection, and mentions e-mail communication with physicians, but discloses nothing of automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. Col. 12 lines 13-31 discusses basic computer system components, but makes no disclosure related to automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. Similarly, the discussion at col. 14 lines 23-39 and Fig. 10 centers on hardware and network configuration, but fails to disclose automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses. Col. 17 lines 5-36 and Fig. 16 discuss collection of patient data via telephone calls, then using a computer to process the data, and then contacting a physician by, e.g., facsimile to make treatment suggestions, but disclose nothing of automatic preparation and transmission of email messages to predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses.

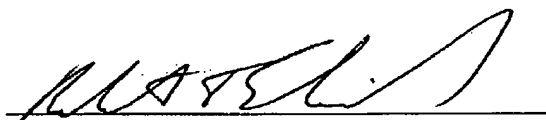
Section 103(a) Rejection. The analysis above is incorporated by reference, and thus it is respectfully submitted that no prima facie case of obviousness is established with respect to the claims as amended. Toyoda discloses internet fax apparatus that notifies an account when a file attached to a message cannot be opened, but the combined art neither discloses nor renders obvious the particular claimed combination of features herein, most notably, a program capable of automatically preparing e-mail attached with new patient information in the database and a

patient ID in the information, and of automatically transmitting the e-mail to one or more predetermined destination medical information processing apparatuses.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication, including any required fees under 37 CFR § 1.17(a) for any necessary extensions of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a), which are hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305. The Examiner is encouraged to call Robert J. Schneider at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application, or to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Response to Office Action, was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

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Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date of Signature: June 13, 2006